

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE DILLARD HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLE FOR WINNING THE ESSENTIALLY ELLINGTON JAZZ BAND COMPETITION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jazz Ensemble of Dillard High School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida for their continued achievements and excellence.

Dillard High School was founded in the early twentieth century with funds from noted philanthropist James Hardy Dillard. The music program at Dillard High School gained fame when the legendary Julian "Cannonball" Adderley served as an instructor of applied music in the 1940's. Dillard High School serves as a Performing Arts and Technology magnet school in Fort Lauderdale, Florida with its main areas of focus being dance, voice, orchestra, and band.

There are no limits to the creative spirit at Dillard High School and there are no limits to the success that their students achieve. Earlier this month, the Dillard High School Jazz Ensemble took home first prize honors at the "Essentially Ellington" Jazz Band Competition at Lincoln Center in New York City. More impressive than their performance is the resolve that the students showed in fundraising for their trips. Many students used their own money to pay for their trips as private donations are scarce.

In addition to this most recent achievement, the Jazz Ensemble took first prize at the "Swing Central" Jazz competition in Savannah, Georgia in both 2011 and 2010 and in 2010 they took second place at the "Essentially Ellington" Jazz Band Competition before winning the prestigious competition this year.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that these young musicians represent my district. It is a true privilege to recognize the Dillard High School Jazz Ensemble and their many accomplishments, both on and off the stage.

HONORING AL WANAMAKER

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Al Wanamaker, outgoing president of the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club, located in my congressional district in North San Diego County California.

Under Mr. Wanamaker's leadership, the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club personified its motto of "Building Communities and Bridging Continents." The club has contributed resources and financial assistance to various

causes including: youth and women, student achievement, military, the disadvantaged and humanitarian efforts around the world.

Some of the projects undertaken by Mr. Al Wanamaker and the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club include hosting a Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA), a youth awareness leadership conference, and business and ethics conferences for Advancement Via Individual Determination, AVID, school students. They sponsored a Four-Way speech contest to help develop public speaking skills for high school students and a golf tournament that benefited scholarships for Carlsbad high school students and returning marines. The Hi-Noon Rotary Club provided dictionaries for English and Spanish speaking elementary school children, as well as meals and gifts to needy elementary school children; and finally, the Club actively supports the Carlsbad Boys and Girls Club.

For the greater community Mr. Wanamaker and the club co-sponsored an Oktoberfest fundraiser that benefitted the Carlsbad Women's Resource Center; provided support to the Veterans Association of North County, and La Posada, a facility for the homeless; assisted in the distribution of food, clothing and toys to over 400 needy Carlsbad families in conjunction with the Carlsbad Christmas Bureau; as well as refurbishing, relocation and dedication of a city landmark structure for public enjoyment.

In the international arena, Mr. Wanamaker and a team of Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotarians joined with others to build a house in Mexico for a needy family. Through the Paul Harris Foundation, the club co-sponsored numerous other humanitarian projects all over the world including: an effort to eradicate polio worldwide; contributed one hundred goats to needy families in a small village in India for the purpose of providing a source of nourishment, income and an opportunity to develop entrepreneurial skills that promote self sufficiency; participated in the Shelter Box program to help the needy in Haiti and Japan that were devastated by earthquakes; provided support to build a school for girls in Afghanistan and developing a source of safe drinking water for a small village in Africa; finally, hosted several foreign exchange students to promote better understanding of other cultures.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the many fine achievements of Mr. Al Wanamaker and his colleagues at the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club. Without question, his leadership and their fine work are worthy of recognition by the House of Representatives today.

TOM McAVOY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize longtime Colorado political reporter,

Tom McAvoy of Pueblo, Colorado. Mr. McAvoy, currently the editorial research director for the Pueblo Chieftain, has one of the most distinguished reporting careers in Colorado and it is a great honor to recognize him upon his retirement.

Mr. McAvoy was born and raised in Pueblo, graduating from Central High School and what is now Colorado State University-Pueblo. He finished his education with a master's degree in Journalism at Ohio State University, before returning to cover the Colorado political arena. His career spanned 34 years, and he spent the majority of that time covering the Colorado General Assembly and the Governor's office as the Chieftain's Denver bureau chief.

He has received a number of accolades during his tenure with the Chieftain. Most notably the Colorado Press Association gave him its inaugural Shining Star Award. He also served on CSU-Pueblo's alumni board and was chairman of the board for the Boys and Girls Club of Pueblo. Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have repeatedly acknowledged their respect for Mr. McAvoy and his professional talent.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have the opportunity to stand and recognize Tom McAvoy, an institution in Colorado journalism. The people of southern Colorado are fortunate to have had such a gifted writer cover the state's government.

CELEBRATION OF ST. LUKE'S
HOUSE 40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate "40 Years of Excellence" by St. Luke's House (SLH) in Bethesda, Maryland, which I am honored to have located in Maryland's Eighth Congressional District. SLH empowers individuals with mental illness who have been released from psychiatric hospitals to live, learn, work and participate successfully in the community by offering integrated mental health services and access to community resources.

St. Luke's House was founded in 1971 by members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. The programs offered by SLH include supported living, life skills training and vocational rehabilitation, as well as 24-hour crisis care and services for youth with serious emotional disabilities. SLH currently provides care for over 2,000 youth and adults annually. To accomplish its mission, SLH owns and operates 31 group homes in the community. It has helped thousands of individuals return to active community life.

SLH provides four basic programs for its clients. The Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program offers individuals supported living opportunities, residential rehabilitation assistance, back-to-work skills, and a life skills program. The

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